







from its outset. The affable stranger who had called at his bedside was not a lawyer: he was a "runner." The retainer he had cajoled the sick man into signing was a blank form; the runner sold it to the highest bidder.

That sat is contrary to legal othics. If

That act is contrary to legal ethics. If the caller had been a member of a law firm, he could have been disbarred for

such underhanded soliciting.

The foregoing example illustrates the shyster lawyer's way of doing business. A more lurid example of his methods was revealed recently when the inner workings of a certain notorious murder trial were brought to light.

The attorney for the defense, through sheer luck, which was made evident by one of the rarest displays of stupidity and carelessness that a New York court-room has ever enjoyed, freed his client.

#### The Beautiful Heiress

DURING the trial the newspapers had a great deal to say about some mysterious woman who, it was understood, was supplying the funds to carry on the defense. She, with the trial, made excellent newspaper copy. Her true identity was not disclosed until after the trial, when this beautiful, mysterious "heiress" appealed to the Bar Association for help. She was the attorney's "runner," and he had not paid her for securing the murder

Because of insufficient evidence the lawyer was not disbarred. He had gained a tremendous amount of notoriety during the trial. He might have capitalized this publicity and become a successful criminal lawyer. But he did not. He went back among the other shysters, because he knew nothing but shyster methods.

Ordinarily the shyster lawyer does his ient more harm than good. The case client more harm than good. rarely interests him; he takes it because of its rich possibilities of extortion. He hovers about the lower courts much after the fashion of the jackal that crouches near a wounded animal.

Pretend for the moment that you have been arrested and are totally uninformed upon the law. Let us see how the shyster will pry you away from your money.

You are arrested for a minor crime misdemeanor—such as going swimming without an adequate bathing suit. The shyster will elbow his way to you at the very rim of the magistrate's desk.

At that moment you have no money in your pocket. Your attorney will see that you are comfortably disposed behind bars; then he will take up his post of watchful waiting and systematic bleeding.

Watchful waiting and systematic bleeding. Have you any relatives or friends with money? Yes, one or two. How much can you get? About one hundred dollars. Very well; get it.

You can rest assured that you will remain behind the bars until all the available money is in the shyster's hands. The saddest part about this every signed will be

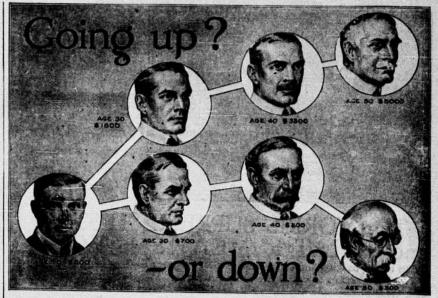
saddest part about this experience will be its climax. When you go to court for trial, your attorney, just as often as not, will instruct you to plead guilty. He has "things fixed" with the judge and you will be given a light sentence.

#### The Case of Pat

ONE of the boldest efforts on the part of disreputable lawyers to filch money from unsuspecting clients came to the at-tention of the Bar Association recently, and resulted in the disbarment and public disgrace of one of its members.

This man had secured a client who was arrested, charged with disorderly conduct: The offender, whom we shall call Pat, was an Irishman, a street-car motorman in the Bronx. He had been saving every penny, planning to return to Ireland as soon as his bank account justified it. But within a week or two of the date he had set for embarking he had offended a policeman.

Pat was locked up, pending trial. His bail was set at \$300. Pat confessed to his attorney that he had \$850 in the bank. The attorney advised his client that if the bank-book was available, its presentation in court would suffice for bail. This was



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the first step in the lawyer's crooked scheme. Pat produced the bank-book The shyster returned later with the information that a withdrawal slip issued by

mation that a withdrawal slip issued by Pat on his bank account was demanded by the judge. After a brief argument, Pat complied. The lawyer hastened to the bank, filled in the slip above his client's signature, and drew out \$700.

Meanwhile Pat languished in jail. A few days later, because of lack of sufficient evidence, he was freed. This unexpected turn of affairs caught the lawyer unprepared. But he rose to the occasion. Through another shyster, he informed Pat that the police were on his trail again, and that the only thing for him again, and that the only thing for him to do was to flee the country. The lawyer even bought a steerage ticket to Ireland, which his shyster friend presented to Pat.

This time, however, the shrewd Irishman refused to be tricked. The boat sailed. The lawyer breathed easier. And then Pat called at his office. He was refused an interview, so he took his case to higher authorities. After being compelled to return the money to the indig-

nant Irishman, the lawyer was disbarred. The undiluted shyster, the lawyer who will give you not even the semblance of a square deal, can be avoided by the ob-servance of two simple rules:

Never hire a lawyer who solicits your patronage under suspicious circumstances. Never hire a lawyer until some one

whose advice you can rely upon vouches for his integrity.



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